

To: All Early Intervention contract managers and FCFC coordinators
From: Nathan DeDino
Date: August 25, 2023
Subject: Early Intervention Program Updates, #2317

MESSAGE FROM THE PART C COORDINATOR

This September 8 is [International Literacy Day](#). Please consider doing something a little extra next month to celebrate the importance of literacy with the families you serve. The Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence (OCALI) has a number of free literacy resources relevant to Early Intervention. This includes [books featuring deaf/hard of hearing and blind/visually impaired characters and topics](#), [children's books about autism](#), and the [OCALI lending library](#). And, of course, don't forget to remind families about [Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio!](#)

I always invite your feedback. Do not hesitate to contact me at nathan.dedino@dodd.ohio.gov. I look forward to hearing from you.

DID YOU KNOW?

Help Me Grow has offered an online version of the Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) screening tool since May 2022. Ohio families with children under age three can use the screening at no cost to understand how their child is developing and whether there are any concerns. After completing the ASQ online screening, a Help Me Grow specialist will discuss the results with the individual that completed the screening and assist them with next steps—such as providing age-appropriate developmental activities, referring to EI or Home Visiting, and connecting them to community resources. Please consider promoting the online ASQ as you are conducting outreach activities. You can access the screening here:

<https://www.helpmegrow.org/ASQ>

PROGRAM UPDATES

EI Service Coordination Oversight Report Guide

Beginning in SFY24, DODD is requiring EI contract managers to complete a twice-a-year report about their local EI system and share it with the local FCFC. The first report must be shared with council not later than February 29, 2024 and cover activities occurring between July 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023 period. The second report must be shared with local council not later than August 31, 2024 and cover activities occurring between January 1, 2024 and June 30, 2024 period. You can access the reporting template and accompanying job aid here:

<https://ohioearlyintervention.org/service-coordination-grant-agreements>

If you have questions regarding the report template or the job aid, please contact Erin Hale (Erin.Hale@dodd.ohio.gov).

RESOURCES AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Save the Date! Early Intervention in Ohio Forum

The Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB), in collaboration with DODD, will again be sponsoring an EI forum this autumn. The forum will be virtual on October 18 and is tentatively scheduled for 9:00am-3:00pm. More details to follow.

Your Feedback Wanted!

Ohio Early Intervention will be partnering with OCALI to train and implement family navigation related to early identification and entry into services. We know throughout the state there are a variety of family navigation programs available, and we are seeking feedback on what our Family Navigators should be named. Please vote for your selection here:

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=joRg2EnQAUqTh4KNiRvHVCRtndb_lftMnpUKByUAA4VUNDNZTEVURIU0UILLQVdBREtVOUJWR0o5Qi4u

Parenting While Rising to Child Developmental Challenges: A Five-Episode Virtual Conversation Series for Families

This free, five-episode virtual conversation series offers a warm and inviting opportunity to connect with other parents and families of children with differences in or challenges to their development. Through a series of conversations with parents of children with developmental differences, challenges, or disabilities, unique and common experiences of loving and raising children whose developmental process and journey is delayed or atypical will be explored.

The series will run on five Mondays from September 25 through December 18, from 3:00-4:00pm. All episodes are one hour with live Spanish translation and closed captioning available.

EI service coordinators and providers are encouraged to share this opportunity with families. You can learn more and register here:

<https://www.brazeltontouchpoints.org/family-talk/child-developmental-challenges/>

Fidelity in Practice: EI Certification Course

Congratulations to Butler County EI Leadership Team for being the first in Ohio to complete the *Fidelity in Practice: Early Intervention Certification* course. Butler County plans to use the checklists provided from the course to assess fidelity to evidence-based practices during EI visits.

There are still openings to receive this training. If you are interested in completing the Fidelity in Practice: EI Certification course, please register here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xPz4UNiUB0-E6zbtV8fIojezEmWL-rdIrm255NRuYr1UOUhaWkM3TFVBSIhaR1o5UzEzQIIBNINWTCQ1QCN0PWcu>

After registering, you will receive a link to begin the course within seven days. This course is only available for EI Administrators, Supervisors, Contract Managers, and Evidence-Based Practice Coaches for developmental specialists. If you have any questions, please email EI Training Officer, Anni Monks, at Rhiannon.Monks@dodd.ohio.gov.